

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice claims 1-20, 22-50, and 52-53.

Please add new claims 54-88 as indicated below.

1. – 53 (Canceled)

54. (New) A machine implemented method performed by a network element having a first interface communicatively coupled to a subscriber over a network provider network and a second interface communicatively coupled to a service provider over a service provider network, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a user via a command line interface (CLI) of the network element for configuring the network element, the request accessing a configuration file stored in a database that is used to route network traffic between the network provider network and the service provider network via the first and second interfaces, the network provider network being different than the service provider network;

in response to the request, recording operations of the request in a transaction log separated from the database without accessing the database until a commit command is received from the user via the CLI of the network; and

performing the operations of the request from the transaction log to access a record of the database associated with the request in response to a commit command from the CLI indicating that the user has committed to the requested configuration.

55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the transaction log comprises a persistent memory in which content of the transaction log is maintained after the network element is powered down or rebooted.

56. (New) The method of claim 54, further comprising prior to recording the operations of the request in the transaction log, acquiring a lock for locking the record of the database associated with the request to prevent other users from accessing the record of the database.

57. (New) The method of claim 56, further comprising:  
receiving further modification of configuration from the user prior to the commit command; and  
storing the modification in the transaction log without accessing the data base until the commit command is received from the user upon which the modification of the configuration is committed from the transaction log to the locked record of database.

58. (New) The method of claim 56, further comprising:  
receiving an abort command from the user via the CLI prior to receiving the commit command; and  
in response to the abort command, removing the operations of the request from the transaction log and releasing the acquired lock without accessing the database.

59. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein after performing the removing and releasing in response to the abort command, the record of the database remains substantially identical with respect to the record prior to receiving the request.

60. (New) The method of claim 56, further comprising indicating within the transaction log that the request is in a committing state while committing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the locked record of the database.

61. (New) The method of claim 60, further comprising indicating within the transaction log that the request is in a non-transaction state if operations of committing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the database have completed.

62. (New) The method of claim 61, further comprising indicating within the transaction log that the request is in a transaction state while recording the operations of the request in the transaction log before receiving the commit command from the user.

63. (New) The method of claim 62, further comprising:  
detecting whether operations of committing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the database have stopped resulted from errors of the network element; and  
in response to the detection, renewing performing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the database while the record of the database is locked.

64. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the detection of whether operations of committing the operations of the request has stopped resulted from errors is performed in response to the network element crashes and recovers from the crash.

65. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein the detection is performed by examining within the transaction log whether the request is in the committing state, and wherein the renewing is performed only if the request is in the committing state.

66. (New) The method of claim 62, further comprising:  
detecting whether operations of recording the operations of the request within the transaction log have stopped resulted from errors of the network element; and  
in response to the detection, removing the request from the transaction log without committing to the database.

67. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the detection of whether operations of recording the operations of the request within the transaction log has stopped resulted from errors is performed in response to the network element crashes and recovers from the crash.

68. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the detection is performed by examining within the transaction log whether the request is in the transaction state, and wherein the removing is performed only if the request is in the transaction state.

69. (New) The method of claim 56, further comprising:  
determining whether the lock being acquired is unavailable;

notifying the user via the CLI that the lock is unavailable; and  
prompting the user whether the user desires to wait or cancel the request.

70. (New) The method of claim 59, further comprising:

removing the request from the transaction log in response to receiving a cancel  
command from the user in response to the prompting; and  
in response to receiving a wait command from the user, repeating acquiring the lock  
until the lock has been acquired upon which if the commit command has been  
received, the request is committed from the transaction log to the locked record  
of the database.

71. (New) A machine-readable medium having executable code to cause a machine to  
perform a method of a network element having a first interface communicatively coupled to a  
subscriber over a network provider network and a second interface communicatively coupled  
to a service provider over a service provider network, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a user via a command line interface (CLI) of the network  
element for configuring the network element, the request accessing a  
configuration file stored in a database that is used to route network traffic  
between the network provider network and the service provider network via the  
first and second interfaces, the network provider network being different than  
the service provider network;

in response to the request, recording operations of the request in a transaction log  
separated from the database without accessing the database until a commit  
command is received from the user via the CLI of the network; and

performing the operations of the request from the transaction log to access a record of the database associated with the request in response to a commit command from the CLI indicating that the user has committed to the requested configuration.

72. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 71, wherein the transaction log comprises a persistent memory in which content of the transaction log is maintained after the network element is powered down or rebooted.

73. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 71, wherein the method further comprises prior to recording the operations of the request in the transaction log, acquiring a lock for locking the record of the database associated with the request to prevent other users from accessing the record of the database.

74. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving further modification of configuration from the user prior to the commit command; and

storing the modification in the transaction log without accessing the data base until the commit command is received from the user upon which the modification of the configuration is committed from the transaction log to the locked record of database.

75. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an abort command from the user via the CLI prior to receiving the commit command; and

in response to the abort command, removing the operations of the request from the transaction log and releasing the acquired lock without accessing the database.

76. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 75, wherein after performing the removing and releasing in response to the abort command, the record of the database remains substantially identical with respect to the record prior to receiving the request.

77. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein the method further comprises indicating within the transaction log that the request is in a committing state while committing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the locked record of the database.

78. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 77, wherein the method further comprises indicating within the transaction log that the request is in a non-transaction state if operations of committing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the database have completed.

79. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 78, wherein the method further comprises indicating within the transaction log that the request is in a transaction state while

recording the operations of the request in the transaction log before receiving the commit command from the user.

80. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 79, wherein the method further comprises:

detecting whether operations of committing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the database have stopped resulted from errors of the network element; and

in response to the detection, renewing performing the operations of the request from the transaction log to the database while the record of the database is locked.

81. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 80, wherein the detection of whether operations of committing the operations of the request has stopped resulted from errors is performed in response to the network element crashes and recovers from the crash.

82. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 81, wherein the detection is performed by examining within the transaction log whether the request is in the committing state, and wherein the renewing is performed only if the request is in the committing state.

83. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 79, wherein the method further comprises:

detecting whether operations of recording the operations of the request within the transaction log have stopped resulted from errors of the network element; and



in response to the detection, removing the request from the transaction log without committing to the database.

84. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 83, wherein the detection of whether operations of recording the operations of the request within the transaction log has stopped resulted from errors is performed in response to the network element crashes and recovers from the crash.

85. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 84, wherein the detection is performed by examining within the transaction log whether the request is in the transaction state, and wherein the removing is performed only if the request is in the transaction state.

86. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 83, wherein the method further comprises:

- determining whether the lock being acquired is unavailable;
- notifying the user via the CLI that the lock is unavailable; and
- prompting the user whether the user desires to wait or cancel the request.

87. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the method further comprises:

- removing the request from the transaction log in response to receiving a cancel command from the user in response to the prompting; and
- in response to receiving a wait command from the user, repeating acquiring the lock until the lock has been acquired upon which if the commit command has been

received, the request is committed from the transaction log to the locked record of the database.

88. (New) A network element, comprising:

a first interface communicatively coupled to a subscriber over a network provider network;

a second interface communicatively coupled to a service provider over a service provider network different than the network provider network;

a router coupled to the first and second interfaces for routing network traffic between the network provider network and the service provider network via the first and second interfaces;

a database for storing a configuration file for configuring the network element and used by the router to route the network traffic;

a transaction log coupled to the database for storing transactions prior to committing to the database; and

a command line interface (CLI) to receive a request from a user for configuring the network element, wherein operations of the request are recorded in the transaction log without accessing the database until a commit command is received from the user via the CLI upon which the recorded operations of the request are committed to the database.